

Blueprint Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 7/18/12

Present: N. Eldridge, B. Grause, C. Jones, P. Jones, B. Little, A. Ramsey, J. Samuelson, L. Watkins

By Phone: D. Cochran, E. Emard, K. Fulton, P. Harrington, J. Hester, C. MacLean, B. Warnock, B. Wheeler

The meeting opened at 8:35 a.m.

I. Blueprint Expansion:

Craig Jones gave an update on PCMH expansion and patterns of growth around the state. We are witnessing a cultural change within communities. Local leadership is driving the change. In November we will be reporting 5 year utilization trends.

Dr. Jones distributed the “Vermont Blueprint for Health Expansion & Team-Based Care” PowerPoint presentation. The presentation highlights our expansion progress as well as the core principles of team based care. Included are the number of current practices and populations with access to team-based services through June 2012. We tried to characterize how the CHTs are structured. We welcome any feedback from this committee with regards to how the information is being gathered and the meaning of the information provided.

- Vermont currently has 95 NCQA-recognized practices. We anticipate that growth trends will be similar to 2012. The majority of practices left to be scored fall into the small/independent practice category. These independent sites will be our focus over the next year.
- Dr. Ramsey asked if any discussions regarding the inclusion of OB/GYN practices have occurred. Currently we have not formally taken up this opportunity. Ms. Emard stated that NCQA will begin pilot demos with a focus on particular specialty services integrating with primary care. NCQA specialty standards are tightly aligned with Medical Home Standards. Ms. Emard offered to give a short presentation of specialty standards at our next Executive Committee meeting. NCQA will be conducting a site visit in Vermont during the second week of September.
- Dr. Ramsey inquired about the current curriculum at UVM. Is UVM preparing their students for team based practices? Dr. MacLean responded that through their clinical training most family medicine physicians are currently rotating through the medical

- home practices. There is also a lecture series dedicated to medical home practices. In 2013 new standards will go into effect for training programs for medical homes.
- Ms. Emard reported that NCQA is now seeing a small number of practices that have not qualified for the 2011 standards.
 - Paul Harrington reported that the GMCB has launched an initiative with St. Johnsbury with regard to cancer patient payments. A historical analysis was used to determine the negotiated payment amounts. Since cancer patients represent high costs, this may not be a fair comparison for determining other payment reform initiatives. Dr. Wheeler stated that payments for the cancer initiative are limited to a one year time period. Additional payments used in this initial pilot were provided to help with redesigning the program of care. More data will be gathered and the program will be revisited following the one year commitment.
 - 60% of our patient-centered medical homes in Vermont are serving both children and adults.
 - The principles of team based care are coming alive in different communities. We struggle with how to really evaluate team based care. VCHIP has agreed to review our current data and dig down deeper. We hope to have correlations of the types of structures and how each is doing with team based care. We currently have regular learning and sharing forums with the practice managers and facilitators. We currently have no way to identify which patients have actually been touched by the CHT.
 - There are 5 principals to guide team-based care which are used nationally.
 - Shared Goals
 - Clear Roles
 - Mutual Trust
 - Effective Communication
 - Measurable Processes & Outcomes
 - A yearly evaluation of these measures might be reasonable.
 - Dr. MacLean would be interested in drilling down to the next level. (example: how much CHT time is spent on the telephone, working on disease specific issues or social work problems) These answers would greatly help others who may be trying to start similar programs. Dr. MacLean will work with Julie Krulewitz at VCHIP.
 - The Provider Link communication system is currently being piloted at several locations. The system is a flexible communication layer which will be integrated in DocSite.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on September 19th.